



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,316	03/01/2004	Richard A. Haase	CV-49	1953
45922	7590	04/07/2006	EXAMINER	
RICHARD A. HAASE (INVENTOR)			NGUYEN, HOANG M	
4402 RINGROSE DRIVE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MISSOURI CITY, TX 77459			3748	

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/790,316	HAASE, RICHARD A.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Hoang M. Nguyen	3748

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2006.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                                   2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 216-220,222-254,256 and 258-342 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 261-341 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 216-220,222-254,256,258-260 and 342 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9-13-04</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Claims 261-341 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on February 16, 2006.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 216-220, 222, 224, 238-240, 243, 248-254, 256, 258, 342, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 4841731 (Tindell).

Tindell discloses a solar energy system comprising an electrolysis chamber 13 for forming hydrogen being stored in an hydrogen tank 22, oxygen being stored in an oxygen tank 21, a combustion chamber 33 for burning said hydrogen and oxygen, water input nozzle 31 for injecting water into the combustion chamber, said combustion chamber is then acting as a steam generator to generate steam to drive a steam turbine 47 to generate electricity through a generator 48.

Claims 216-220, 222, 224, 228-229, 238-240, 243, 248-254, 256, 258, 342, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 3459953 (Hughes et al).

Hughes et al discloses a solar energy system comprising an electrolysis chamber 16 for forming hydrogen being stored in an hydrogen tank 20, oxygen being stored in an

oxygen tank 22, a combustion chamber 24 for burning said hydrogen and oxygen, water input nozzle 48 for injecting water into the combustion chamber, said combustion chamber is then acting as a steam generator to generate steam to drive a steam turbine 32 to generate electricity through a generator 36. Note the electrical input 10 can be from any sources (column 2, lines 15-16), so it's clear that the electricity from the generator 36 can be used too.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 223 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 5388395 (Scharpf et al). Tindell discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of nitrogen. Scharpf et al is relied upon to disclose it's well known to use nitrogen in the inlet of the combustion chamber for the purpose of improving the cooling function of the input fluid. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to inject nitrogen in Tindell as taught by Scharpf et al for the purpose of improving the cooling function of the input fluid.

Claims 225-227 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 5899072 (Gode). Tindell discloses all the

claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of corrosion to form hydrogen. Gode is relied upon to disclose it's well known to use corrosion to form hydrogen (column 1, lines 36-49). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to form hydrogen by corrosion in Tindell as taught by Gode for the purpose of generating more hydrogen if needed.

Claims 230-236 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 5516359 (Kang et al). Tindell discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of air separation unit with membrane. Kang et al is relied upon to disclose it's well known to use air separation unit 107 with membrane 108 for separating air. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use an air separation unit with membrane in Tindell as taught by Kang et al for the purpose of separating air to form more important components if needed.

Claim 237 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 4440545 (Weidig). Tindell discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of corrosion inhibitor. Weidig is relied upon to disclose it's well known to use corrosion inhibitor in a combustion chamber. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use corrosion inhibitor in Tindell as taught by Weidig for the purpose of inhibiting corrosion in the combustion chamber.

Claim 241 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 3975913 (Erickson). Tindell discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of fuel cell. Erickson is relied upon to disclose it's well known to use fuel cell 1 to work in combination with an electrolysis chamber. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use fuel cell in Tindell as taught by Erickson for the purpose of generating the appropriate amount of hydrogen and oxygen.

Claims 242, 259-260, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell). Tindell discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of gel storage and jet propulsion rocket. However, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use gel storage and jet propulsion rocket in Tindell for the purpose of ease of storing gases and driving rocket if needed (note it's well known to use combustion engine such as gas engine to produce thrust in aircraft/rocket design).

Claims 244-247 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4841731 (Tindell) in view of U.S. 6698183 (Thordarson). Tindell discloses all the claimed subject matter as set forth above, but does not disclose the use of flywheel and transmission. Thordarson is relied upon to disclose it's well known to use flywheel

176 and transmission 178 for transmitting power from a combustion chamber/engine 22. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use flywheel and transmission in Tindell as taught by Thordarson for the purpose of transmitting power output of the combustion engine.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4861. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday--Friday from 12:30 AM to 10:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas E. Denion can be reached on 571-272-4859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



HOANG NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 3748

Hoang Minh Nguyen  
4/1/2006